CAMDEN HIGH SCHOOL

APRIL 1997 No. 3

Special Public Meeting

On The Revised Discipline Code

(see inside)

Tuesday, 15th April
7:30 pm School Hall

To be followed by

Parents' Meeting

8.15 pm Library

* Principal's Report: Lynn Ludwig

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The Department of School Education required during 1996 that each school revised its Welfare and Discipline Policy. It also requires that this be presented to a public meeting for endorsement. So parents can consider this before the Public Meeting to be held on Tuesday 15th April in the Assembly Hall at 7.30, prior to the P.& C. Meeting, a summary of the Welfare and Discipline Policy is provided in this Bulletin.

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The School Development Day held on the first day of Term was most valuable, preparing Staff for a more effective use of technology, particularly computer technology, in our work with students.. The Staff received training in a range of applications from Computer Skills for Beginners to Internet Skills and Desk Top Publishing, and considered the concept of the *Almost* Technological Classroom.

In addition, the Department of School Education's new Child Protection Procedures were reviewed. In the midst of much sensationalist reporting on these, the most far reaching change has been largely ignored. While teachers have been for some time required to report cases of suspected Child Sexual Assault to the Department of Community Services, it has not in the past been compulsory for them to report cases of suspected child abuse of other kinds or of suspected neglect. The new procedures make the reporting of these also mandatory.

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Shaping Their Future, the McGaw report on the Higher School Certificate has been released. Whilst many of its recommendations are common sensical adjustments to changing times, which will be quietly implemented, two have proved particularly controversial.

One of these calls for standardizing all courses as two unit ones (four hours per week), thereby eliminating one unit and three unit courses. This has aroused concerns about the place of excellence in the system, three unit courses being elite ones taken by the best students. This is a most serious issue and warrants the fullest consideration.

The second concerns the numerical code by which results are to be reported. Compared with the question of the quality of the content of the Courses, this is a relatively minor matter, but it is one that parents and employers find particularly vexatious as they seek to cope with changes in reporting. Dr. McGaw's problems are created by attempting to reconcile two very different modes of evaluating performances, ranking and benchmarking. Ranking seeks to place candidates' achievements in order of merit while benchmarking seeks to define what students can and cannot do. I suspect that in this he is trying to do the impossible and that ultimately the community will have to decide whether it wishes its students to be ranked or classified.

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The Concert Band United States Tour was a huge success. Make sure you read the report in this Bulletin.

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At the Annual General meeting of the P.& C., Mr. John Gilmore was replaced by Mr. Mart Rampe as its President. I would like to publicly record my gratitude to Mr. Gilmore for the manner in which he has filled this position for the past nine years. He has worked tirelessly for the good of the school and his force of personality and great acumen have been key factors in facilitating the preparation for the moving of the school to its new site.

Gary Rolland

COMING EVENTS

WEEK 2

Monday, 14th April	-	Year 11 Camp commences (Lake Illawarra - 3 days)
Tuesday, 15th April	-	a) Year 7 History/Geography excursions b) Public Meeting 7.30 p.m. re Welfare and Discipline Policy.
Wednesday, 16th April	-	Year 10 Decision Time - Pds 1 & 2 and Parent Evening
Thursday, 17th April	-	DEAS Silver Canoeing Practice Expedition (4 days)

WEEK 3

Monday, 21st April	-	Year 8 History/Geography excursions.
Thursday, 24th April	-	Year 9 Art excursion to Art Gallery
Friday, 25th April	-	ANZAC DAY

WEEK 4

Monday, 28th April	-	Years 10 and 12 exams commence
Thursday, 1st May	-	Year 7 Science excursion to Zoo

WEEK 5

Wednesday, 7th May	-	Year 10 Forster Excursion (3 days)
Thursday, 8th May	-	Year 10 (Alternative) excursion to Sportspace
Friday, 9th May	-	Year 10 (Alternative) excursion to Kiama
Saturday, 10th May	-	DEAS Bronze Bushwalk - Thirlmere Lakes

WEEK 6

Tuesday, 13th May	-	Science Competition
Wednesday, 14th May	-	School Cross Country Carnival School Social
Thursday, 15th May	-	DEAS Silver Canoeing Test Expedition (4 days)
Friday, 16th May	-	Year 11 Ancient History Excursion to Macquarie University

CAMDEN HIGH SCHOOL: STUDENT WELFARE AND DISCIPLINE POLICY - 1997 (ABBREVIATED)

RATIONALE:

Student welfare encompasses everything that the school community does to meet the personal, social and learning needs of students. It involves recognising, valuing and developing each student as a total and unique person and incorporates:

* the creation of a safe, caring learning environment in which students are nurtured as they learn
* the total school curriculum and its delivery
* effective discipline
* preventive health and social skills programs
* collaborative early intervention programs
* ongoing educational services to support students
* recognition of the diversity within the school community and the provision of programs and support which acknowledge difference and promote harmony
* recognising the school as a resource which links families with community support services
* the provision of opportunities for students to:
    - enjoy success and recognition
    - make a useful contribution to the life of the school
    - derive enjoyment from their learning

The school is not by itself responsible for, or equipped to develop, socially acceptable behaviour by students. That is a shared responsibility of parents and students in partnership with teachers. Parents share in the responsibility of shaping their children's understandings and attitudes about acceptable behaviour and assume greater responsibility for their children's behaviour as their children travel to and from school. The teacher's task is to provide the best possible program to meet the needs, capabilities and aspirations of each student. They are also responsible for appropriately communicating with parents about the educational progress and behaviour of each student. As children grow, they become more active participants in the partnership. Consequently, parents and teachers share a commitment to provide opportunities for students to take responsibility for their actions.

ORGANISATION:

Although the prime responsibility and accountability for student welfare and discipline within a school lies with the principal, all teachers have a responsibility for the students in their care. To assist in implementing the Student Welfare Policy at Camden High School, the Principal has appointed Student Advisers, Assistant Student Advisers and a Student Adviser, Welfare . The Deputy Principal and Student Adviser, Welfare, are the co-ordinators of the student welfare program and a welfare committee has been structured to develop, implement and evaluate student welfare programs. Although linked, discipline policy and matters within the school are primarily the responsibility of head teachers and the senior executive. The Leading Teacher has the responsibility for co-ordinating the 'Discipline System'.

The Welfare Committee will prepare an annual Action Plan which will be presented to the Principal and School Executive for endorsement.

SPECIAL WELFARE POLICIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

* CHILD PROTECTION

The Department of School Education, as an agency responsible for the care and welfare of students, has a charter to protect the young people in its care from sexual, physical and emotional abuse and neglect and from improper conduct of a sexual nature. All school staff are now required to notify all suspected child sexual, physical and emotional abuse and neglect to the Principal, who will contact the relevant authority/authorities..

All teachers need to refer to the Child Protection Procedures as documented and updated by the DSE.

* CRITICAL INCIDENT POLICY

A critical incident is any situation which causes unusually strong emotional reactions which have the potential to interfere with the ability to function either at the time or later.

A. STAFF ACTION

CLASSROOM OR PLAYGROUND

1. Apply first aid if necessary.
2. Send for help.
3. Notify the Principal.
4. Clear the area.

B. SCHOOL ACTION

Following any major incident, the Principal will:

1. Obtain the facts and notify emergency services if not already called.
2. Call the Senior Executive to plan:
    i. notifying relatives
    ii. contacting counsellors
    iii. handling the media
    iv. informing the Crisis Team
    v. mobilising the Crisis Team.
3. If appropriate, call a Staff Meeting to:
    i. relay information re incident and plan;
    ii. implement pre-arranged student support plan;
    iii. note any necessary variations to the plan.
4. Hold a School or Year Assembly to inform students of the facts of the incident, arrangements and procedures.
5. Determine the need for other support agencies to be called in.
6. Return the school to normal routine as soon as possible with opportunities provided for emotional release and counselling support.

CRISIS TEAM; Principal, Deputy Principal, Leading Teacher, Student Adviser (Welfare), Student Adviser, School Counsellors.

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE CODE AND SCHOOL RULES

* EXPECTATIONS OF GOOD DISCIPLINE

Students have a right to learn, to expect that they will spend the school day free from bullying and intimidation, to be safe and happy at school and to be treated fairly, respectfully and with dignity. Teachers have the right to expect to carry out their professional responsibilities in the classroom free from disruption and unco-operative student behaviour since this is essential to ensure each student's right to learn. Teachers also have the right to be treated with respect, courtesy and dignity and to expect students to be co-operative and to conform to the school's Code of Behaviour, Classroom Guidelines and its policies and procedures.

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

* MAKE THE MOST OF ALL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES
* TREAT ALL OTHERS FAIRLY AND WITH RESPECT
* TAKE CARE OF YOUR OWN PROPERTY AND THAT WHICH BELONGS TO OTHERS
* BE IN THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME
* RESPECT RIGHTFUL AUTHORITY
* CARE FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF YOURSELF AND OTHERS
* UPHOLD THE SCHOOL'S STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR AND DRESS
* CARE FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT INCLUDING ITS FLORA AND FAUNA

CLASSROOM GUIDELINES

* BE ON TIME
* ENTER THE ROOM IN AN ORDERLY MANNER
* HAVE THE CORRECT EQUIPMENT
* ACT COURTEOUSLY TOWARDS OTHERS
* REMAIN IN YOUR SEAT
* CO-OPERATE WITH YOUR TEACHER
* LISTEN POLITELY TO ANY SPEAKER
* RESPECT OTHER PEOPLE AND THEIR PROPERTY
* RESPECT SCHOOL PROPERTY
* REFRAIN FROM EATING, DRINKING OR CHEWING
* LEAVE THE ROOM IN AN ORDERLY MANNER
* ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR ACTIONS

SCHOOL REGULATIONS

* Any student arriving late to class must present a late pass.
* Any student out of class during a period must have the written authority from the class teacher.
* Students are obliged to wear school uniform as established by the school community. Any student out of uniform must carry a parental note explaining the reasons for the situation.
* Students are not permitted in designated out of bounds areas.
* No student is permitted in a classroom without the permission of the class teacher.
* Students must not enter staff rooms without permission.
* No student may leave the school grounds during school hours without a PASS OUT and the permission of a head teacher and/or a senior executive member.
* Violence, threatening behaviour, fighting or encouraging others to fight is totally unacceptable.
* Smoking or drinking alcohol by students at, or whilst travelling to and from school, is totally banned.
* Prescribed medicines, tablets etc must be left with the Student Adviser, Welfare and only taken under her direction.
* Drugs and dangerous weapons are not, under any circumstances, to be brought to school.

* A note of explanation for absence should be given to the roll teacher the day the student returns to school. Long term absences should be notified to the Student Adviser or senior executive.
* Eating in corridors and classrooms is not allowed, unless under the supervision of a teacher or during wet weather routines.
* The dropping of litter and spitting are forbidden. Students will be required to clean up the area.
* Radios, cassette/C.D. players, electronic games and skateboards should not to be brought to school. Students must assume responsibility for such items if they are lost or stolen at school.
* Mobile telephones belonging to students should be handed to the office for safe keeping.

STUDENTS CAN HELP THEMSELVES

.....by doing their best in all aspects of the regular curriculum (classwork) as well as becoming involved in special programs and activities such as:

Band
Camps
Career Talks
Chess Club
Computer Program
Cowra Inter-School Visits
D.E.A.R. Scheme
Debating
Dramatic Presentations
Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
Excursions
Fund Raising for Charity
Musical Extravaganza
Peer Support & Peer Tutor Scheme
Prefects/ Student Representative Council
School Socials
Service to the School
Service Club Competitions
Special Seminars
Sporting Activities
Statewide Competitions
Subject Activities
RIBIT - Read in Bed. Its Terrific!
Vocal Group
Work Experience
S.R.C.

.....by observing the **Code of Behaviour**

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

* MAKE THE MOST OF ALL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES
* TREAT ALL OTHERS FAIRLY AND WITH RESPECT
* TAKE CARE OF YOUR OWN PROPERTY AND THAT WHICH BELONGS TO OTHERS
* BE IN THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME
* RESPECT RIGHTFUL AUTHORITY
* CARE FOR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF YOURSELF AND OTHERS
* UPHOLD THE SCHOOL'S STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR AND DRESS
* CARE FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT INCLUDING ITS FLORA AND FAUNA

.....and by following procedures regarding:

assemblies
assignments
attendance
canteen
class equipment
D.E.A.R.
detentions
examinations
movement around the school
office duty
classroom rules
out of bounds areas
punctuality
submission of work
textbooks
toilets
travelling to and from school
uniform
use of library
use of clinic
leaving school early
sport organisation

BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT PLAN:

1. STRATEGIES TO PROMOTE GOOD DISCIPLINE AND EFFECTIVE LEARNING

* APPROPRIATE CURRICULUM

* COUNSELLING

* STAFF DEVELOPMENT

* PEER SUPPORT

* PEER TUTOR

* TUTORIAL PROGRAM

* MENTOR SCHEME

* PARENT WORKSHOPS

* ORIENTATION PROGRAMS

* DISCOVERY DAY

* DIARIES AND STUDY PROGRAM

* HOMEWORK POLICY

* DISABILITIES LIST

* CONFLICT RESOLUTION PROGRAM

* REMEDIATION

* LIAISON WITH COMMUNITY AGENCIES

* CHESS

* CAMPS

* THE LEVELS SYSTEM

2. PRACTICES TO RECOGNISE AND REINFORCE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

* THE MERIT SCHEME

* SPORTS AWARDS

* 100% CLUB

* HAPPY LETTERS

* GOLD PASS AWARD SCHEME

* STUDENT LEADERSHIP

* ASSEMBLIES / YEAR ASSEMBLIES

* SPORTS ACHIEVERS DINNER

* PRESENTATION NIGHT

* MERIT BARBECUES AND RECOGNITION ASSEMBLIES

* PUBLIC ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

* THE LEVELS SYSTEM

3. STRATEGIES FOR DEALING WITH UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOUR

At both the classroom level and the school level, the consequences for unacceptable behaviour will include one or more of:
* reprimand
* loss of privilege
* detention
* in-class isolation
* reclassification on a level system
* counselling
* social skills training
* restitution
* individual behaviour plans or case management
* suspension or exclusion from school

Parents need to be involved in behaviour management plans. Teachers are encouraged to contact parents by telephone or letter should students not respond to low level corrective action.

* THE LEVELS SYSTEM

There are seven levels - Levels 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 and 0. Level 5 is used to describe normal behaviour and Level 0 is used to describe the most unacceptable form of misbehaviour. Level 6 is awarded to those student's who successfully meet a stringent set of criteria related to co-operative behaviour, positive attitudes and consistent application. A number of special privileges are made available to these students.

A student may be placed on a level below Level 5 for a single offence, as determined by a Head Teacher, Student Adviser or the Principal, Deputy Principal or Leading Teacher, or for continuing misbehaviour at other levels and failure to respond to counselling and applied sanctions. Head Teachers may place a student on Level 4 (Faculty) and Student Advisers may place a student on Levels 4 or 3. The Principal, Deputy Principal and Leading Teacher may place a student on any level. Once placed, a student other than on Level 1 or 0, will be required to complete Conduct Cards for a period of two weeks. On satisfactory completion, the student will apply for upgrading to a higher level where they, again, will complete a Conduct Card for a minimum of a one week period. This process will continue until the student reaches Level 5.

* DETENTION

* LOSS OF PRIVILEGES

* SUSPENSION

SYDNEY SOUTH WEST AREA SWIMMING CARNIVAL

This carnival, which was held at Campbelltown on Wednesday and Thursday, 19th and 20th March, is the annual swimming competition between the eight zones of the area. Macarthur Zone again performed very well being placed second behind Westfields. Camden High School was placed equal fifth from all the schools of the area. There were thirty five swimmers from Camden High School in the Macarthur Zone team, with Camden again providing many relay teams.

Congratulations to all swimmers for their fine effort and excellent co-operation and behaviour at the carnival. Thanks also to parents who attended the carnival and provided transport for the swimmers.

Once again the depth of our swimming talent was shown when our Knockout Relay (12 x 50m - six boys, six girls) was placed second. The winner, Westfields will represent our school at state. Our team, which included students from each year at school, was:-

Sarah Phipps, Laura Favretti, Sarah Luke, Tania Hoskin, Penny Smith, Erin Holden, Chris Lewis, Nathan Couley, Joshua Patterson, Adam Brazenall, Kelii Williams and Martin Satran.

Kelii Williams, who was the 17+ years Boys Sydney South West Area Champion, was our most successful swimmer. He will compete in seven individual events at state in freestyle, backstroke and medley events.

Our other individual competitor will be Penny Smith who was placed second in the 16 years Girls 50m Freestyle.

The following relay teams also qualified:

12 Years Girls (Sarah Phipps, Katherine Phipps, Elisa Williams, Julieanne Firth)
16 Years Girls (Penny Smith, Tania Hoskin, Kylie Reason, Lauren Holden)
17+ Years Boys (Adam Brazenall, Kelii Williams Martin Satran, Nathan Couley)
Open Boys Medley (Kelii Williams, Chris Lewis, Nathan Couley, Adam Brazenall)

Mr. M. Smith
Swimming Co-Ordinator

BAND TOUR TO THE U.S.A.

The Camden High School Concert Band touched down at Sydney Airport at 6-55 a.m. on Sunday 6th. April (Australian time) to conclude a highly successful concert tour of the United States.

During the fourteen days of the tour the band gave eight major performances. Each of these performances were very enthusiastically received by their audiences. On many occasions there were standing ovations with calls for encores.

The first performance was on Pier 39 in San Francisco on a sunny Sunday afternoon. It took no time at all for the band to attract and hold a very large audience who were very appreciative and who, after the performance, wanted to know exactly where it was that we came from and were also very complimentary in their remarks about the performance. While in San Francisco band members were billeted by Woodside High School and we were all treated to a conducted tour of the city, including going across both the Golden Gate and Oakland Bay bridges and spending some time in the Fisherman's Wharf area. We were also taken across to Alcatraz Island for a tour of this historic prison.
Carmel, Monterey and 17 mile drive were also visited and band members learned a great deal about the San Francisco part of the world.

After leaving San Francisco the band headed south-east to the town of Lodi near the high Sierra Mountains. Tokay High School hosted us, providing an evening meal, a social and dance, organizing for us all to sleep overnight in sleeping bags in the school's gymnasium (what an experience !) and providing breakfast before we left to go to Yosemite National Park. Yosemite was an experience none of us will ever forget - the grandeur of the natural beauty of this place leaves one lost for words - we were also fortunate that there was still some snow and, as many of the band members had never seen snow before, their participation in a snowball fight was something they will never forget. Then it was on to our next host school of La Canada near Los Angeles.

The next big performance was at the Jet Propulsion Laboratories of N.A.S.A. near Los Angeles - as luck would have it, Steven Segal was present at the Laboratories on that day so we had a quite prestigious audience. After the performance was over, the Head of J.P.L. as it is called, made a point of commenting that the Camden High School Concert Band was the finest performing group they had ever had. After the performance the band was taken on a tour of this centre of the "cutting edge" of space technology. Our guide was very informative and helpful and a great deal of enjoyable learning took place.

On the next day Universal Studios was the centre of attention as band members enjoyed "seeing how the movies are made" and also participated in some fairly hair raising rides. This day was brought to a memorable conclusion by the band's performance in the prestigious "Universal City Walk". This perfromance was, again, very highly applauded by the large audience who assembled to listen.

The "Big Day" of the Tour occurred on Saturday 29th. March when we were one of only two guest International groups invited to perform at the "1997 Los Angeles Youth Musicale". This took place in the prestigious Dorothy Chandler Pavilion of the Los Angeles Music Centre - the venue for the Academy Awards. The Dorothy Chandler Pavilion is also the home of the Los Angeles Philharmonic and it is rare for other groups to perform there - including other American groups, so we felt very humbled by the opportunity to perform in this venue. The audience gave us a great reception and we had a very memorable day. The Certificate of Excellence with which we were presented is something that we prize very highly as a band. There were nine performing groups on the day and a CD is being cut featuring a couple of items by each performing group.

Disneyland - "The happiest kingdom of them all" - was the venue for the band's next performance. For this performance the repertoire, of course, had to feature a large number of Disney favourites. We performed at the Carnation Garden Plaza - the largest performing stage in Disneyland and we had an audience of very appreciative Disney fanatics who kept wanting more. After the performance - as many rides as you could fit in for the rest of the day - **Until 9 o'clock at night !** Of course we all enjoyed this day immensely - even Jason La Greca, who had an argument with a garbage tin and lost, necessitating three stitches in his forehead.

While in the Los Angeles area the band was taken on a conducted tour of the the city and Hollywood and Beverly Hills and Venice Beach and Santa Monica. So you can see they learned a lot about this part of the world.

Then it was off to San Diego and the large U.S. Naval Base for our performance on the flight deck of U.S.S. ANCHORAGE on 1st. April. The entire ship's crew of some 300 enlisted men and officers assembled for our performance. They gave us a great reception and had even baked a large welcome cake which we asked Jason La Greca to cut to celebrate his birthday and his stitches ! The sailors then took us on a conducted tour of the ship which was very enlightening to us all. U.S.S. ANCHORAGE served in the Gulf War and is due to sail again for the Gulf in the near future. After our tour we all sampled Navy cuisine as we ate lunch on board ship.

While in San Diego we stayed at La Jolla. One of our hosts (a milionaire) gave us all Opening Day Tickets to attend the Opening Day Baseball Match between the San Diego Padres and the New York Mets. This was an unforgettable experience for us all. The atmosphere is indescribable as you sit in the 60,000 seat stadium in the middle of all the action.

We gave a concert at La Jolla that was met with a standing ovation and calls for encores. After the concert a reception was held for us during which we met a large number of the local people. During the time at La Jolla the band was taken down across the border into Mexico. The City we visited was Tijuana - this was certainly an education as band members saw mothers and children begging in the streets. It made us all appreciate the standard of living we enjoy. Band members also learned how to haggle and bargain to get the best possible price for goods that they wanted to purchase.

The final city to be visited was the desert resort of Palm Springs. At Palm Springs our performance was again met with a standing ovation and calls for encores. Our hosts at Palm Springs High made us most welcome and provided a barbecue evening meal for us. Palm Springs is of great geographical interest with the City being near sea level while immediately behind the city the adjacent mountains rise abruptly to a height of 3,600 metres - so you can be in warm temperatures in the main street and be looking directly up to snow covered mountain peaks.

To reluctantly bring our tour to an end we were then brought back to Los Angeles to the original "Planet Hollywood" on Wiltshire Boulevarde in Beverly Hills for a final evening meal before going to the airport to load ourselves on the Boeing 747-400 and head for home.

The American people were absolutely marvellous to us - they were extremely hospitable and treated us like royalty. The great performance experiences that the band had in many different performing situations, both indoors and outdoors, in superb performing venues could not be overestimated - the musical growth of the band members has been of inestimable value. It is impossible to put a price on the value of the huge number of "hands on" direct learning experiences that we have had.

The band did us all proud - they performed superbly well - they were very well received - they won people by their manner, personality, manners and behaviour and they were "the best" ambassadors for this school, this community and this country.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SHOW VISIT

On the 24th March, 1997, the IM class went to the Royal Agricultural Show.

We left school at 8.30 a.m. and arrived at the show at 10.30 a.m. We got off the bus and walked through the show gates. By Katrina Page.

We watched "Cool Runnings" on the way to the show. It was really funny. By Troy Brown.

When we arrived at the show, the teachers discussed what we were doing, then we were divided into groups. By Jamie Dukes.

In the Sport and Leisure Pavilion, we watched Andrew and Troy play the Daytona game. Troy came second place and Andrew came third place. By Bobby Nasato.

We visited the Farmyard display where the baby animals are kept. We saw calves, kids, lambs, ducklings and chickens. By Timothy Grigg.

We went to the Art and Craft display. We saw some paintings, dolls, wool products and needlecrafts. By Andy Latta.

We looked at a display of tractors and then we went for lunch in the park. By Andrew Sala.

We saw a baby sheep being born in the maternity ward at the show. By Abrar Ali.

We went to the Showbag pavilion and bought some showbags. I bought a huge bubblegum bag. By Cervi Fetelea.

We met Mike Whitney from "Who Dares Wins" in the Showbag pavilion, where he signed a poster for us. By Aaron Asquith.

On the way home, we watched the movie "Toy Story". By Joe Fiorenza.

We all had an enjoyable day and are looking forward to visiting the "Royal Agriculture Show" on it's new Homebush location next year.

Mrs. H. Grace
IM/IO Support Teacher

ENGLISH FACULTY NEWS

YEAR 7 WRITING DAY:

In the last week of Term One the English Faculty organised a successful Writing Day for Year Seven students. The aim of the day was to have students work in small groups on a range of activities in order to improve their skills in creative and descriptive writing. The day was also seen as an opportunity to foster unity within the Year group, an important undertaking for new Year Seven students.

The venue for the day was the picturesque North Wollongong Beach and parkland which was a great spot; inspirational for the writing and the perfect place for an enjoyable and active lunch break. We were fortunate to have a sunny day which made the venue quite spectacular.

The students worked in small groups with the assistance of teachers and looked at language which captured the essence of the five senses, and the use of description and the creation of imagery. Students will be able to take what they experienced an learned on the day back to the classroom when they are required to write creatively. It was a successful and productive day which was enjoyed by all students. Staff who attended were impressed by the attitude of the students towards their work and by the behaviour of all present.

1997 PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION:

Once again this year, the English Faculty ran a public speaking competition across years 7 to 11. This is the fourth year that this activity has been a feature of the English program in Term One, and it was obvious from the quality of the speeches presented that many students have gained considerable confidence and organisational skills from the experience over the years.

Students gave a prepared speech on a topic of their choice. Year 7 & 8 were required to speak for 3 minutes, Year 9 & 10 for 4 minutes and Year11 for 5 minutes. Most parents will agree that to speak in front of an audience can be a traumatic experience, but the majority of students handled the situation well.

The best speaker from each class then went on to the Year Final, where the rest of the year and staff were presented with a variety of entertaining, funny and thought-provoking speeches. The standard of the speeches was outstanding.

Winners of each Year Final are to be congratulated on a fine effort. They are:

Year 7 - Kristy - Lee Matheson
Year 8 - Christa Looney
Year 9 - Marni Rutherford
Year 10 - Lisa Armstrong
Year 11 - Amy Doughty

These students were invited to represent Camden High School at the 1997 Macarthur Schools Public Speaking Competition held at Ambarvale High School on the 26th March 1997. Due to other commitments, Christa was unable to attend but we were fortunate that Sarah Perks was able to represent us. It was a great thrill to see Lisa Armstrong win the Year 10 Competition. It was a fine effort and we congratulate Lisa on this result. All students spoke well and were excellent ambassadors for the school.

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

The following students received Principal's Awards during March, 1997.

Year 8

Nicholas Farncomb, Jessica Punch (2), Philip Thomson, Kyran Boardman (2), Sarah Perks, Christa Looney (2).

Year 9

Alana Wade, Jessica Ryan, Amanda Bolton.

PARENTS - PLEASE GIVE THIS MATTER YOUR URGENT ATTENTION

Unfortunately, quite a few students appear not to have their current details on their Student Information Cards. This makes it extremely difficult when a child is sick or injured and we need to contact the parents as quickly as possible.

If you have changed your home address or telephone number, employment telephone number, or your emergency contact is no longer valid, please complete the form below and have your student return it to the FRONT OFFICE.

Thank you.

CAMDEN HIGH SCHOOL — STUDENT INFORMATION

SURNAME: FIRST NAMES:

ADDRESS: PHONE No.:

STD ( )

Postcode:

Father's Name: Mother's Name:

Occupation Occupation:

Place of Work: Place of Work:

Phone No.. Phone No.:

EMERGENCY CONTACT: NAME: PHONE No.: ( )

DOCTOR'S NAME: PHONE NO:

"FROM THE CAREERS OFFICE".....

SOUTH WESTERN SYDNEY INSTITUTE OF TAFE
CAMPBELLTOWN COLLEGE

TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY

Course vacancies in:-

* Travel Operations (Wholesale)
* Front Office Operations - Level 2

Enrolment will be offered to interested students week commencing April 14th 1997.

These courses will be run part-time.

Attendance: Monday and Tuesday evening.

Time: 6pm - 9pm.

The course will be completed in 18 months.

Cost: $ 85 per semester

If you are interested in enrolling or finding our more information about these exciting career areas

Contact: Margaret Boys (046) 201 729
Joy Sitterlee (046) 201 836

YOUTH WEEK

1997

20 APRIL - 27 APRIL

Wednesday 23 April
The Youth Factory Theatre Production
7 - 8 pm AH&I Hall Camden
$4 for adults (young people FREE)

Thursday 24 April
Youth Services Expo
3 - 8 pm Narellan Town Centre

Saturday 26 April
Youth Week Festival
Bands, displays, carnival and more !!
10 am - 11 pm AH&I Hall
and Camden Showground

For More Info
☎ Catherine or Leanne on 55 3359
☎ Kylie on 47 4000

Funded by Department of Training & Education Co ordination, Camden Council and Camden Local Youth Group

WIRRIMBIRRA HERITAGE WEEK CELEBRATIONS

To celebrate the National Trust's Heritage Week "Culture Down Under"
from April 20-27
Wirrimbirra Sanctuary, Remembrance Drive, Bargo
will host an exhibition about the local area, called
BEATING ABOUT THE BUSH
which will bring together various organisations
to display the cultural and environmental history
of Bargo and Tahmoor.
Some of the participating organisations will be:
Hawkesbury/Nepean Catchment Management Trust
National Parks & Wildlife Service (Picton)
Picton & District Family & Local History Society
Healing the Stonequarry
Upper Nepean Catchment Trust
David Stead Memorial Wildlife Foundation
C.A.L.M.

IN ADDITION

There will be a special
WILDLIFE DAY
on Sunday, April 20, 10 am - 4 pm
ANTHONY STIMSON
will give hourly educational talks
about the native animals which he brings with him
kangaroos, crocodiles, snakes, goannas, flying foxes, bats etc.